GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:217
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2002
CAG REPORT ON MISUTILISATION OF RURAL ROADS FUNDS
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sum of Rs. 164.64 crore was spent on the construction of `Kachcha` rural link roads in some of the States contrary to the requirement of construction of durable nature between 1992-99, as has been mentioned in the CAG ReportNo. 3 of 2000 (Civil) in Paragraph Nos. 4.12.3 at page 222;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into the matter;

(d) if so, the detail thereof;

(e) the action taken against the authorities for spending the public money; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the money is spent judiciously for the benefit of the common man at large?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA)

(a & (b) : The Comptroller and Auditor General in its Report No. 3 of 2000 (Civil)reported that though the Road works taken up under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY)and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) were to be ofdurable nature, the implementing agencies in Tripura, Mizoram, Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Nagalandgot executed `Kachcha` roads costing Rs. 164.64 crore between 1992-1999.

(c) to (f) : The observations of the Audit were communicated to the concerned States forfurnishing their comments. State governments, with funds constraints in view, have justified the construction of `Kachcha` roads on the grounds of the need for rural link roads and to provide maximum wage employment at minimum capital cost. The primary objective of both the JRY and the EAS was generation of employment opportunities for the rural people living below the poverty line. The programme guidelines therefore prescribed wage material ratio of 60:40 which the implementing agencies were required to adhere to while selecting and executing works.